



Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership
Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2008

Summary

Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) Members in Attendance (13):

Karen Bulkeley on behalf of Kenneth Deibert (Department of Economic Security)
Scott Cocuzza (Business Leader)
Anthony Coulson (Drug Enforcement Administration)
David Felix (Department of Public Safety)
Irene Jacobs (Governor's Office for Children, Youth, and Families – Executive Director and Senior Policy Advisor)
Duce Minor (Parker Area Alliance for Community Empowerment, Inc. PAACE)
Dr. Rodgers Wilson on behalf of Dr. Laura Nelson (Department of Health Services)
Dr. Kim O'Connor (Governor's Office/Division for Substance Abuse Policy)
Jerry Oliver (Arizona Department of Liquor License and Control)
Jeff Sanders (Community Member)
Dona Markley on behalf of Dr. Dora Schriro (Arizona Department of Corrections)
Mary Specio-Boyer (COPE Behavioral Services, Inc.) *Teleconference*
Karen Ziegler (Arizona Criminal Justice Commission)

Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) Members Absent (8):

Jan Leshner, Chair (Governor's Office)
Jean Ajamie (Department of Education)
Suzie Barr (Ex-Officio, Governor's Office)
Richard Fimbres (Governor's Office of Highway Safety)
Marnie Hodahkwen (Ex-Officio, Governor's Office)
Mary Joyce Pruden (Ex-Officio, SAMHSA/CSAP)
Christopher Vasquez (Pinal County Sheriff)
Dr. Kellie Warren (Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections)

Public (17):

Jason Blackstock (Pima Prevention Partnership)
Sarah Brichler (Pima Prevention Partnership)
James Copple (Strategic Applications International)
John Demeka (Phoenix Indian Center)
Jennie Lagunas (Department of Health Services)
Cassandra Larsen (Arizona Prevention Resource Center)
Christine Montague (AZ FP)
Shelly Mowrey (Partnership for a Drug-Free America)
Angie Rodgers (Governor's Senior Policy Advisor on Health and Human Services)
Joan Shaffer (SW Human Development)
Lisa Shumaker (Arizona Department of Health Services)
Jessica Smith (Students Against Destructive Decisions)
Phillip Stevenson (Arizona Criminal Justice Commission)



Tamatha Villar (Pinal County Sheriff's Office)
Linda Weinberg (Cenpatico)
Brian Wilcox (Department of Public Safety)
Micah Wixom (Office of the Auditor General)

Call to Order

Ms. Irene Jacobs welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 1:13 p.m. on behalf of Chair Jan Leshner. Ms. Jacobs noted that Ms. Leshner, the Governor's Chief of Staff, was appointed by the Governor in place of Mr. Dennis Burke to chair ASAP. Ms. Jacobs stated that members would hold off on providing introductions until Ms. Leshner arrived.

Approval of the Minutes

Ms. Jacobs referred members to the minutes from the previous meeting. Mr. Jerry Oliver moved to approve them, Mr. Anthony Coulson seconded the motion and it was carried with no objections.

Strategic Focus Areas and Strategic Planning for 2009

Ms. Jacobs referred to Mr. Jim Copple of Strategic Applications International. Mr. Copple stated that updates on the 2008 Strategic Focus Areas would be provided. Mr. Copple also noted the proposed Strategic Focus Areas for 2009: Drug Endangered Children (DEC), Underage Drinking, Prescription Drug Abuse, and Media and Marketing Campaigns. He stated that the group would have an opportunity to provide input on the proposed strategic focus areas.

Mr. Copple referred to Dr. Rodgers Wilson to provide an update on the Child Welfare and Substance Abuse Strategic Focus Area.

- **Child Welfare and Substance Abuse**

Dr. Wilson noted that he is present on behalf of Dr. Laura Nelson, the ASAP member from the Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services (DHS/DBHS). Dr. Wilson provided data on capacity as it related to substance abuse treatment. He stated that DHS had just undertaken an independent review on Women's Services. In order to improve the state's treatment capacity DHS has reprioritized, opening up additional facilities in rural communities. Dr. Wilson noted that several assessment tools were being revised, and that Child Protective Services (CPS) specialists and DHS providers are now receiving ongoing specialized trainings. DBHS created a best practices committee for prevention and treatment, as well as an intra Regional Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA) coordination committee.

Dr. Wilson reported out on the Adolescent Substance Abuse Conference recently held by DBHS, stating that it was a success and they will likely make it an annual conference. Training was provided to CEOs of the RHBAs to ensure that services are being provided to the most appropriate individuals. DBHS and DES have applied for In Depth Technical Assistance



(IDTA) offered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) through the National Center for Substance Abuse and Child Welfare. This technical assistance would provide a consultant to the state.

Mr. Copple noted that there has been tremendous progress in this Strategic Focus Area from a structural perspective. Dr. O'Connor referred members to the Executive Order 2008-01 Progress Report in their packets. She noted that the Progress Report was a requirement of EO 2008-01 and asked members to provide any additional feedback before the report goes to the Governor by September 30th. Any feedback should be sent to Ms. Morgan Hester to incorporate into report by Friday, September 26th. Ms. Jacobs acknowledged and thanked Ms. Hester for her hard work on the Report. Dr. O'Connor also referred members to the Executive Action Briefing Outcomes Sheet briefing that Dr. Wilson highlighted.

- **Law Enforcement and Drug Trafficking**

Mr. Copple referred to Ms. Karen Ziegler to provide an update on this Strategic Focus Area and referred members to the Executive Action Briefing Outcomes Sheet found in their packets. Ms. Ziegler noted that a document has been provided to members to highlight the different federal funding sources for drug enforcement, broken down by county. Ms. Ziegler stated that the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) intends to build upon the document, based on the needs identified by ASAP. Ms. Ziegler noted that nearly 60 million dollars are coming into the state via grants from the U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and that as a next step they will evaluate state dollars. Mr. Copple clarified that this document does not include many other federal funding sources looking at areas besides drug enforcement. Ms. Ziegler noted that the information will also be used in conjunction with data to ensure that resources are targeted most efficiently and effectively. Ms. Ziegler noted that one barrier is that with some of the federal funding the state does not have oversight or discretion on how the funds are spent.

Mr. Copple noted that part of the Strategic Focus Area is to examine funding sources as a part of targeting resources. Ms. Ziegler noted that the agency would continue to update and provide data to members.

Ms. Ziegler noted that in the past a state clearinghouse to track grant funding in the state existed and it was too cumbersome and was not continued. Mr. Copple asked the members if it would be useful for agencies to report out on receipt of funds. Mr. Duce Minor noted that it would be useful to receive the full picture on where funds are going. Ms. Ziegler noted that it may not have to be done through the counties, so it is less burdensome. Mr. Copple noted that for planning purposes in the state, this type of data collection would be useful. Dr. O'Connor noted that it would be useful for planning, especially during tough budget years. Ms. Jacobs noted that it would be helpful for communities to know ASAP, but also for ASAP to reach out to the community and it would be useful information for local communities who want to know more about planning and targeting resources. When asked about capturing data over the last five years, Ms. Ziegler noted that three years of data would be realistic. Mr. Copple noted that capturing this data may be helpful. Ms. Ziegler provided a quick update on intelligence sharing,



stating that DPS continues to work with Task Forces and HIDTA center on sharing information.

Mr. Jerry Oliver asked what these grant dollars are buying Arizona. Ms. Ziegler noted that HIDTA has this information and that they are doing a cost benefit analysis. Ms. Ziegler stated that the Task Forces do report out on things such as number of arrests and seizures so this information is available. Mr. Copple noted that there are efforts on a federal level that work to do a cost benefit analysis, especially referring to underage drinking and the costs associated with it. Mr. Anthony Coulson noted that there is output information available around enforcement; however there is work to do around actual outcomes.

- **Data Driven Decisions and Data Presentation**

Mr. Copple referred to Mr. Phil Stevenson for a report on progress in the Data Driven Decisions and Policy Development Strategic Focus Area. Mr. Stevenson noted that in addition to this update he would provide information on the Arizona Youth Survey 2008, representing information from over 54,000 youth in Arizona. Mr. Stevenson noted that addressing the fragmented data collections silos is critical and has been a focus area for the Epidemiological Work Group. He stated that the Snapshot of Arizona 2008 (to be released on target in November) would be focusing on Underage Drinking, Methamphetamine, Emerging Issues, Co-Occurring Disorders and Data Gaps.

Mr. Stevenson presented data on the Arizona Youth Survey, 2008. He highlighted that with many substances, prevalence of use has decreased. Alcohol continues to be the most abused substance. Mr. Stevenson stated that inhalant use trends have not changed, despite the decreased prevalence of use of other substances. LSD and ecstasy showed an increase in prevalence. He noted that there is variation in use across counties, mentioning that Navajo, Greenlee and Cochise counties are experiencing an increased prevalence of underage drinking. He commented that there were data collection barriers for Apache County. Mr. Stevenson noted that every county in Arizona had significantly decreased lifetime meth use among youth, a decline of almost 50 percent from the 2006 survey. All 15 counties have experienced increase in lifetime prescription drug abuse, with nearly one of every four youth using these drugs, though he noted that there was a change to the questioning surrounding prescription drug abuse in the 2008 survey which may have had an effect on data. Mr. Stevenson provided data on substance use by gender and type, noting that it affects both genders.

Mr. Copple confirmed that lifetime meth use among 8th, 10th, and 12th graders has decreased by approximately 50 percent

Ms. Jane Irvine inquired about the status of the release of the data. Mr. Stevenson responded that ACJC will first release data to schools, and then will release county data and a statewide profile.

Mr. Stevenson will let members know as soon as the data is released.

- **Strategic Planning for 2009**



Mr. Copple announced the suggestion that the next four Strategic Focus Areas be: Drug endangered children (DEC), underage drinking, prescription drug abuse, and media and marketing campaigns. Executive Action Briefings with Action Steps will be developed for each of these focus areas, as was done with the 2008 focus areas.

DEC: This Strategic Focus Area will look at current protocols, and ways to improve the response and tighten up protocols. He noted continued concerns from the law enforcement community on this issue.

Underage Drinking: Mr. Copple stated that underage drinking is a problem that never goes away and that there is significant "generational forgetting" around the issue. He stated that at the community coalition level, coalitions communicate that underage drinking remains the number one problem. This focus area will look at how Arizona works in a comprehensive manner to address underage drinking- what are we doing, how we do it, how we engage parents, communities and industry. ASAP absolutely has an opportunity to call attention to this issue.

Prescription Drug Abuse: Mr. Copple noted that this is the next front of youth substance abuse and there must be a comprehensive response incorporating parents and marketing campaigns.

Media and Marketing Campaigns: Mr. Copple noted several of the current substance abuse campaigns on a state and national level. He commented that ASAP should examine what works, what doesn't, and examine the effectiveness and impact of these campaigns.

Ms. Jacobs inquired as to how ASAP will continue to work on 2008 Strategic Focus Areas. Mr. Copple noted that ASAP will continue to work through these Action Steps, create next steps and update ASAP on these focus areas.

Ms. Hester referred members to the Executive Action Briefing Outcome Sheets in their packets and stated that outcomes have been moved to bottom of sheet to demonstrate what has been accomplished and what remains to be done.

Dr. Wilson noted that a focus on prescription drug abuse is very timely.

Mr. Minor posed a question to Mr. Stevenson in response to his report that indicated that the state has seen dramatic declines in use of certain substances. He asked if Mr. Stevenson could answer the question (based on the data he has available) of if we are effecting substance abuse overall, or if youth are just changing their substance of choice but continuing (overall) the same usage rates.

In responding to a question from Ms. Dona Markely, Dr. Wilson and Mr. Stevenson noted that the Arizona Youth Survey data is comparable to national data.

Ms. Jacobs thanked Mr. Copple and all the subcommittee members for all of their hard work.

Drug Enforcement Administration Update



Ms. Jacobs referred to Mr. Coulson to provide an update from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Mr. Coulson noted that he would provide information on drug trends and current activities around drug enforcement and the border with Mexico.

Mr. Coulson stated that most drugs are seized around Interstate 8 and Interstate 10. He noted a 60 percent increase in heroin seizures, an alarming trend that must be watched. Over half of all marijuana is coming through Arizona (compared to other southwest border states). There has been a steady decline in cocaine seizures (tremendous price increase and less availability), and a decrease in meth seizures. Mr. Coulson noted that meth seizures had been of large quantities, indicating that the meth seems to be outbound, with Arizona serving as a transit state. The Mexican government has banned all ephedrine products in order to combat meth production. Mr. Coulson reported that the price of methamphetamine has doubled, and he noted that there is an emerging trend of an increase of meth coming into Arizona from Las Vegas. He commented that meth labs in Arizona have decreased, but they expect an increase in labs as a result of less supply from Mexico.

In revisiting the increase in heroin seizures, Mr. Coulson noted that Arizona is now the primary entry point for Mexican heroin into U.S. along the southwestern border (Arizona seizes 29 percent of heroin coming from Mexico). As a point of comparison, Arizona accounts for 13 percent of linear border.

Mr. Coulson discussed the border violence and violence occurring with the drug cartels in Mexico. He stated that an average of 23 individuals are killed each day as a result of border violence resulting from Cartels fighting for border space.

Other Items and Upcoming Events

Dr. O'Connor referred members to the documents in their packets regarding prescription drug abuse and the Florida Medical Examiner's Report. Dr. O'Connor acknowledged Laura Pederson, an intern in the Division for Substance Abuse Policy for the compilation of the documents. She also noted several other documents, including the calendar of events.

Call to the Public

Ms. Jacobs made a call to the public and there was no response.

Adjourn

Ms. Jacobs noted that next meeting was scheduled for November 13, 2008. Ms. Jacobs thanked members for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 2:58 p.m.